

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Chris Schanck: *Unhomely***  
**March 1 – April 14, 2018**  
**Opening reception: Thursday, March 1, 6-8pm**



Chris Schanck, *Arcane Console* (2017)

**New York, NY** – Friedman Benda will present *Unhomely*, American designer Chris Schanck's solo gallery exhibition, from March 1 through April 14, 2018. This exhibition marks a culmination of his acclaimed sculptural approach and the first time a comprehensive body of work by Schanck will be on public view.

*Unhomely* features 15 works with independent, stand-alone narratives woven into an otherworldly landscape. Synthesizing premeditation and spontaneity, Schanck's highly individualized, low-tech, idiosyncratic technique, Alufoil, was conceived in 2011 while studying for an MFA at the Cranbrook Academy of Art. The process begins with Schanck's imaginative drawings and models, which are then executed by a burgeoning community of artists and collaborators, all apprentices of the "Alufoil" method—recalling a medieval craft guild practice.

Hybrids of sculpture and furniture, Schanck's bold constructions blend biomorphic forms with elaborately crafted symbolism. These assemblages draw from a wide range of influences ranging from Brutalist and Art Deco architecture to ancient Egyptian, Anatolian and Aztec iconography. Skirting the line between refinement and camp, Schanck's figurative, at times anatomical, creations reference science fiction films and conjure up visions of ancient aliens, hidden cavernous chambers, and monolithic space operas.

Despite overt references to fantasy and meta-fiction, Schanck's assemblages are grounded in the reality of humanity's relentless neglect, necessity, and inventiveness—a vernacular imparted from his

**FRIEDMAN BENDA** 515 W 26TH STREET NEW YORK NY 10001

FRIEDMANBENDA.COM TELEPHONE 212 239 8700 FAX 212 239 8760

neighborhood of Detroit. "In my work, I take inspiration from the people and forms around me and dip them into a futuristic skin. These pieces are proudly irregular, they are a spectacle of imperfection and they shine in their own alien skin," says Schanck.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue featuring an essay by Glenn Adamson, Senior Scholar at Yale University.

Exhibition music by Dopplereffekt.

#### **About Chris Schanck**

Born in 1975 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and raised in Texas. Schanck received a BFA from the School of Visual Arts (New York, NY) in Sculpture in 1999 and an MFA in Design from Cranbrook Academy of Art (Bloomfield Hills, MI) in 2011. Chris Schanck lives and works in Detroit.

#### **About Friedman Benda**

Friedman Benda is dedicated to presenting established and emerging designers who create historically significant work and are at the forefront of their practice. Founded in 2007, the gallery's exhibitions and publications have played a vital role in the rise of the design market and education, and take a comprehensive approach to work that intersects the fields of design, craft and art. Friedman Benda represents an international roster of designers spanning five continents and multiple generations.

For further information please visit [www.friedmanbenda.com](http://www.friedmanbenda.com)

###

#### **For visuals and more information, pleased contact:**

Media Contact:  
Blue Medium, Inc.  
Michelle DiLello  
[michelle@bluemedium.com](mailto:michelle@bluemedium.com)  
T: +1 (212) 675-1800

Gallery Contact:  
Friedman Benda  
Carole Hochman: [carole@friedmanbenda.com](mailto:carole@friedmanbenda.com)  
Jennifer Olshin: [jennifer@friedmanbenda.com](mailto:jennifer@friedmanbenda.com)  
T: +1 (212) 239-8700